

# Walk With Scripture - Scripture Lesson

**Title:** *Courageous Faith Trusting God in the Face of Fear*

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## **Focus Scripture:**

**ESV:** *"For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control." (2 Timothy 1:7, ESV)*

**NIV:** *"For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love, and self-discipline." (2 Timothy 1:7, NIV)*

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## **Lesson Outline**

### **Opening Prayer (5 minutes):**

*Prayer to invite God's presence and guidance.*

"Dear Heavenly Father, we gather here today in Your presence, seeking Your wisdom and strength. Help us to confront our fears and uncertainties with courage rooted in faith. As we study Your Word, fill us with boldness and peace, knowing that You are with us always. Guide our hearts and minds as we seek to grow closer to You. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen."

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### **Introduction to the Topic (5-10 minutes):**

#### **Theme: Courageous Faith in the Face of Fear**

Fear is a common human experience. Whether it is fear of failure, rejection, the future, or uncertainty, it can paralyze us and keep us from fulfilling God's calling on our lives. However, God calls us to have courageous faith, trusting Him even when circumstances seem overwhelming. Throughout the Bible, God commands His people to "fear not" and reassures us that His presence and power are with us. As men, we are called to lead with courage, setting an example of faith for others by trusting God in all situations.

#### **Biblical Basis:**

God equips us with the power to face our fears, not through our own strength but through His Spirit. Courageous faith doesn't mean the absence of fear but the ability to act in faith despite it, knowing that God is our protector and guide.

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### **Bible Verses for Discussion (20 minutes):**

#### **1. Joshua 1:9**

- **ESV:** *"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."*
- **NIV:** *"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."*

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## 2. Psalm 27:1

- **ESV:** *"The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"*
- **NIV:** *"The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?"*

## 3. Isaiah 41:10

- **ESV:** *"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."*
- **NIV:** *"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."*

## 4. Matthew 14:29-31

- **ESV:** *"He said, 'Come.' So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, 'Lord, save me.' Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, 'O you of little faith, why did you doubt?'"*
- **NIV:** *"'Come,' he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, 'Lord, save me!' Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. 'You of little faith,' he said, 'why did you doubt?'"*

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### Discussion Questions (15-20 minutes):

1. What fears do you currently face in your life? How do these fears affect your faith and decision-making?
2. How have you seen God help you overcome fear in the past? In what areas of your life do you need to trust Him more today?
3. How can we, as a group, encourage and support each other to grow in courageous faith, especially in moments of doubt or uncertainty?

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### Life Application (10 minutes):

#### Taking Courageous Steps of Faith

Courageous faith requires action. It means stepping out of our comfort zones and trusting God to guide and protect us, even when we don't have all the answers. In our workplaces, homes, and relationships, there will be moments when fear creeps in. Instead of retreating, we can choose to move forward, confident that God is with us. Whether it's standing firm in our beliefs, making a difficult decision, or confronting personal struggles, we must remember that God's Spirit empowers us with courage and strength. This week, seek out opportunities to exercise courageous faith—whether it's sharing your faith with a coworker, making a tough choice that honors God, or trusting Him with an uncertain future.

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## Reflection and Encouragement (5-10 minutes):

Reflect on what it means to have courageous faith. Ask yourself, "What areas of my life need more trust and less fear?" Remember that God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and self-control. Fear may come, but it doesn't have to control our actions. As you continue to face challenges, remind yourself of God's promises and His presence in your life. Be encouraged by the testimonies of other men in the group, and let their faith stories strengthen your resolve.

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## Closing Verse:

**ESV:** *"Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong."* (1 Corinthians 16:13, ESV)

**NIV:** *"Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong."* (1 Corinthians 16:13, NIV)

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## Closing Prayer (5 minutes):

"Lord, we thank You for Your Word, which reminds us to be courageous in the face of fear. We ask for Your continued guidance and strength as we navigate our daily lives. Help us to walk in faith, trusting that You are with us in every step we take. Grant us boldness to face our challenges with confidence in Your power. As we go from here, let our lives be a testimony to Your faithfulness. In Jesus' name, Amen."

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## Takeaway Challenge:

This week, identify one specific fear that is holding you back. Confront that fear with prayer and Scripture. Take one step of faith toward overcoming it, trusting in God's strength and guidance. Share your experience with a group member for encouragement and accountability.

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## Online Bible Resources:

- Logos ([www.Logos.com](http://www.Logos.com))
- Bible by Olive Tree ([www.OliveTree.com](http://www.OliveTree.com))
- BibleGateway ([www.BibleGateway.com](http://www.BibleGateway.com))